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because good research needs good data

Derestricting Datasets

How to License Research Data

Alex Ball

DCC/UKOLN, University of Bath

25 February 2011



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Outline

Why license research data?

Licensing options

- Creative Commons

- Open Data Commons

- Open Government Licence

- GILF/AusGOAL Licences

- Design Science Licence

- Public Domain

Mechanisms for Licensing Data

Further Information

Group Exercise

Why license research data?

The open data argument

- ▶ To allow the data to be used in new ways: comparative studies, data mining, interdisciplinary studies, 'citizen science'...
- ▶ To permit greater scrutiny of research
- ▶ To raise standards of documentation
- ▶ To protect researchers from challenges
- ▶ To accelerate community-wide learning from experience
- ▶ To increase efficiency
- ▶ To increase impact

The pragmatic argument

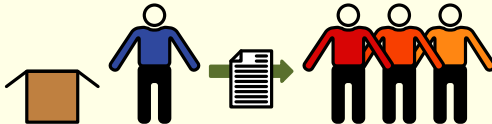
- ▶ To provide clarity

Types of licenses

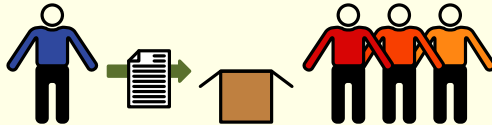
► Contracts



► Pure licences



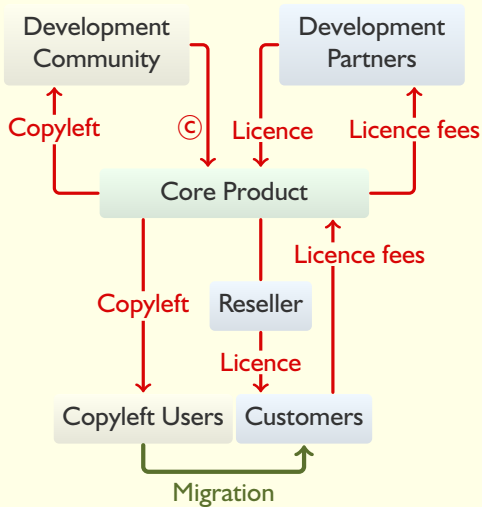
► Waivers



Licensing questions

1. Do you need to make a choice?
 - ▶ Institutional policy
 - ▶ Data archive policy
2. Would a standard licence suffice?
3. Do you need to write your own licence?
4. Do you need more than one licence?

Multiple licensing



Välimäki, M. (2003). Dual licensing in open source software industry. *Systemes d'Information et Management*, 8 (1), 63–75. Retrieved 3 September 2010, from <http://opensource.mit.edu/papers/valimaki.pdf>

Creative Commons

 **BY** Attribution





 **NC** Non-Commercial

 **SA** Share Alike

 **ND** No Derivatives










Creative Commons

-  **BY** Attribution
Attribution stacking
-  **NC** Non-Commercial
What counts as commercial?
-  **SA** Share Alike
Reduces interoperability
-  **ND** No Derivatives
Severely restricts use



Open Data Commons



- ▶ Attribution Licence (ODC-BY)
 - ▶  / 
- ▶ Open Database Licence (ODC-ODbL)
 - ▶   /   
- ▶ Explicitly distinguishes database structure from contents, and deriving visualisations from deriving new databases.

Open Government Licence




Open Government Licence
for public sector information

- ▶ Attribution ⓘ
- ▶ Terminates on illegal/misleading usage of data
- ▶ Can only be used for public sector data
- ▶ Cannot be used for logos, insignia, personal data, otherwise encumbered data
- ▶ Does not distinguish database structure from contents



- ▶ Six Australian CC Licences
- ▶ Restrictive Licence
 - ▶ Contract template: standard legal code modified using schedules
 - ▶ Expiry date
 - ▶ Geographical restriction
 - ▶ Different copying/distribution terms for confidential and ordinary data
 - ▶ Licence fees
 - ▶ Other restrictions and permissions

Design Science Licence

- ▶ Attribution and Share Alike 
- ▶ Distinguishes source data from visualisations
- ▶ Does not distinguish database structure from contents
- ▶ Redistribution requirements

Public Domain



- ▶ Creative Commons Zero (CC0)
- ▶ Open Data Commons Public Domain Dedication and Licence (ODC-PDDL)
- ▶ Open Data Commons Database Contents Licence (ODC-DbCL)
- ▶ Community norms?

Attaching the licence to the data

[This database is/These data are/*(name of dataset)* is] made available under the Public Domain Dedication and License v1.0 whose full text can be found at:

<http://www.opendatacommons.org/licenses/pddl/1.0/>

<http://www.example.com/data/set/1>

<http://purl.org/dc/terms/license>

<http://www.opendatacommons.org/licenses/pddl/1.0/>

Further Information

A Digital Curation Centre and JISC Legal
'working level' guide



How to License Research Data

Alex Ball (DCC)



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<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.5/scotland/>

[http://www.dcc.ac.uk/
resources/how-guides/
license-research-data](http://www.dcc.ac.uk/resources/how-guides/license-research-data)



[http://www.web2rights.com/
OERIPRSupport/](http://www.web2rights.com/OERIPRSupport/)

- ▶ Starter Pack
- ▶ Diagnostic Tools



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because good research needs good data

Thank you for your attention

DCC Website: <http://www.dcc.ac.uk/>

Alex Ball: <http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/ukoln/staff/a.ball/>

Group Exercise

How would you license the following datasets?

1. Power consumption at your house
2. Temperature and humidity readings from a well-sited Stevenson Screen
3. Wealth and assets survey data (2006–2008)
4. Anonymised genomic/proteomic data
5. Amounts of carbon and energy embedded in building materials
6. Recordings, transcriptions and annotations of simulated design meetings